

♂. Column yellowish white; tentacles and disk pellucid white, with a very pale blush of rose when not fully expanded; radial bands opaque white, very few. (A single specimen.)

Size.

When fully expanded, from 2 to 5 inches across.

The whole appearance strongly resembles a *Tealia*; but its almost total want of warts distinguishes it from *T. digitata*, another deep-sea species (which I have not seen). It may, perhaps, be a link between *Tealia* and *Stomphia* var. *pyriglotta* (Gosse, p. 223).

XXXII.—*Description of a supposed new Species of Cuckoo from Celebes.* By ARTHUR, Viscount WALDEN, P.Z.S.

Hierococcyx crassirostris, n. sp.

A collection of birds recently made in North Celebes by Dr. Meyer contains two examples of a Cuculine form which appears to be undescribed. They severally represent a distinct and very marked phase of plumage. Yet neither can be affirmed to have attained its full livery. One example is in the "hepatic" stage, the other may be wearing the adult garb.

Example No. 1, hepatic plumage, has the nape, back, upper tail-coverts, upper surface of the wings, and the quills bright chestnut. The nuchal feathers, which are white at their base, are broadly fringed with black, giving a barred appearance to the nape. The interscapulars are obscurely edged with brown. The shoulder-coverts have black subterminal marks, or are else faintly clouded with black markings. The quills are almost of a uniform chestnut above and below; subterminally they are more or less clouded with brown. The inner webs at their insertions are pure white, which descends for about one-third of their length. There are no bands or bars on either surface of the quills. The under shoulder- and tail-coverts are pure cream-colour, devoid of any markings. The middle pair of rectrices are broadly banded with black. The intervals between the black bands, and which are much narrower than the black bands, are bright chestnut on the outer edges, but pure white near the shaft. The two portions of each band divided by the intervening shaft are unsymmetrical. The remaining pairs are also broadly banded with black, but the intervals are less chestnut, becoming nearly all white in the fifth pair. In this outer pair the bands are nearly symmetrical. All the rectrices

are broadly tipped with pure white. The shafts assume the colour of the webs they support. The under surface of the body is rich creamy white, a few of the feathers with a broad, bold, black, transverse band. On the breast a black band or collar, formed by each feather being crossed by a subterminal black bar. Head black mixed with ferruginous, the base of the feathers being pure white. Checks and sides of the head and neck covered with creamy-white feathers tipped with black. Bill horn-brown. Legs, feet, and nails yellow.

Example No. 2 has the under surface pure white, each feather with a broad black band or spot, which is again edged with white. Under tail- and shoulder-coverts and inner webs of the quills for half their basal length pure white. Head and cheeks ash-grey. Nuchal feathers white at base, with greyish-brown terminations. Back, wings, and upper tail-coverts ferruginous brown, the ferruginous tint predominating. Upper surface of the quills brown, with ferruginous borders. Under surface paler brown, tinged with light ferruginous. Middle pair of rectrices ferruginous brown, with one broad subterminal black band. Faint traces of pure white on each side of the shaft at intervals. The outer rectrices are broadly banded with black and white. In some the white is irregularly clouded with ferruginous brown. All are narrowly tipped with white. Bill horn-brown; lower mandible at base greenish yellow. Legs, feet, and nails yellow.

Longitudo

	Rostr. a nar.	Alæ.	Caudæ.	Tarsi.
No. 1.	·87	7·75	8	1
No. 2.	·87	8	8	1

In both examples the third and fourth quills are equal and longest; the second is equal to the fifth. The outer pair of rectrices are much shorter than the others. The bill is exceedingly high and stout. The total absence of markings on the quills and under shoulder-coverts, and the extremely stout bill, distinguish this cuckoo from all known forms. Although a much smaller bird than *H. sparveriioides* (Gould), its bill is fully twice as deep.

XXXIII.—*On the Skin &c. of the Rhytina, suggested by a recent Paper of Dr. A. Brandt's.* By JAMES MURIE, F.L.S. &c.

[Plate XIX.]

SAVE one, the admirable Steller*, no naturalist has left a

* "De Bestiis marinis," Nov. Comm. Acad. Imp. Petropol. t. ii, 1749-51.